

HOUSE RESOLUTION 230

By Ferguson

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Roxie McClendon on the celebration of her 105th birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Roxie Guettner McClendon will celebrate her 105th birthday on January 30, 2008, a milestone that will be commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, Roxie McClendon was born on January 30, 1903, in Polar Springs, Tennessee, the fifth child of a family of nine children; and

WHEREAS, her family moved to Rockwood, Tennessee, in 1911, and young Roxie began working in a hosiery mill at the age of eleven to help support her family; and

WHEREAS, on April 23, 1922, she was joined in marriage with Charles Sanders McClendon, and they built their home in 1924, where Mrs. McClendon would live until 2005; and

WHEREAS, the McClendons celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary shortly before Charles McClendon passed away in October of 1987 at the venerable age of eighty-seven; and

WHEREAS, the couple's blessed union produced three sons, Ray, Billy, and Paul Ed; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. McClendon continued to work in the hosiery mill for thirty-seven years, demonstrating the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity throughout her long record of service; she also proved to be an invaluable employee of Brown's Laundry and Cleaners, where she provided exemplary service for a period of ten years; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected member of her community, Roxie McClendon is known as a wise and loving mentor, neighbor, and friend; and

WHEREAS, Roxie McClendon is very likely the oldest newspaper columnist in the world, as she continues to write a weekly column for *The Rockwood Times*; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, she has been declared a Golden Treasure for Roane County on Founder's Day 2007, and, in a testament to the high regard in which her community holds her, a scholarship has been established in her name at Roane State Community College; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. McClendon has been a devout and active member of Eureka Baptist Church for a remarkable eighty-eight years, and she has served faithfully as a Sunday School and Bible School teacher; and

WHEREAS, as an example of her strong commitment to her faith and for her concern for others, Mrs. McClendon established the McClendon Mission Fund, in conjunction with the Baptist Foundation, in 1987; and

WHEREAS, possessing a vitality and a zest for life that is extraordinary for a person of any age, in 2004, at the age of 101, she baked and cooked for nearly everyone in her community, preparing an astonishing total of 800 cookies and 200 apple pies; and

WHEREAS, well into her 11th decade, Mrs. McClendon continues to be an active and vital member of her community, participating in various civic and community events, as her health permits; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate Roxie Guettner McClendon on the celebration of her 105th birthday and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.